

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s) : Richard J. DIBBS  
Serial No. : To Be Assigned  
Filed : Herewith  
For : EGG HANDLING PASTEURIZATION APPARATUS AND  
METHOD  
Examiner : To Be Assigned  
Art Unit : To Be Assigned

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Kindly amend the above-identified application before examination, as set forth below.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 1, please delete the section beginning on line 1, captioned "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" and replace such deleted section with the following replacement section:

**--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

The present application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/210,430, filed on August 1, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/323,326, filed on September 20, 2001, each of which is expressly incorporated herein in its entirety by reference thereto.

The present application is related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No.

\_\_\_\_\_, entitled "Egg Handling Pasteurization Apparatus and Method," bearing Attorney Docket No. 17306/106, filed on the even date herewith, which is expressly incorporated herein in its entirety by reference thereto and which is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/210,430, filed on August 1, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/323,326, filed on September 20, 2001.--.